

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4656

INFO USIA WASHDC

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FOR JACK SMITH (ARA/APU) FROM AMB HILL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AR, US

SUBJECT: MEETING OF MAYORS OF LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

REF: BUENOS AIRES 0861

1. AT HIS REQUEST GENERAL EMBRIONI, MAYOR OF BUENOS AIRES, CALLED ON AMB HILL ON FEB 26. PURPOSE OF CALL WAS TO BRING TO AMB'S PERSONAL ATTENTION UPCOMING MEETING OF MAYORS THAT WILL BE HELD IN BUENOS AIRES MARCH 16-19.

2. EMBRIONI TOLD THE AMB THAT MAYORS FROM 70 COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND THIS CONFERENCE. LATIN AMERICA WILL BE HEAVILY REPRESENTED. IN ADDITION, THE MAYOR OF MOSCOW HAS ACCEPTED THE INVITATION, AND EMBRIONI IS AWAITING RESPONSE FROM THE MAYORS OF PEKING AND TWO OTHER PRINCIPAL CHINESE CITIES. EMBRIONI EXPECTS BETWEEN 250 AND 300 MAYORS AND THEIR AIDES FROM AROUND THE WORLD TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE.

3. THE PURPOSE OF CONFERENCE WILL BE TO ANALYZE COMMON PROBLEMS FACING LARGE URBAN AREAS AND THE PARTICIPANTS WILL DISCUSS, AMONG OTHER MATTERS, POLLUTION, CITY ADMINISTRATION, TAXATION, SEWAGE DISPOSAL, ETC. THE MAYORS WILL ALSO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT SEVERAL POINTS OF INTEREST IN

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BUENOS AIRES, AND FOLLOWING MEETING IF THEY CHOOSE THEY

WILL BE GIVEN A FREE TRIP TO BARILOCHE, IGUAZU, AND MAR DEL PLATA. THE WIVES OF THE MAYORS, WHOM EMBRIONI WISHES VERY MUCH TO SEE IN ATTENDANCE, WILL HAVE AN EXTENSIVE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PROGRAM DURING THE CONFERENCE DATES.

4. ARGENTINE EMBASSY HAS ALREADY ISSUED INVITATIONS TO THE MAYORS OF NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO AND MIAMI BUT HAS RECEIVED NO RESPONSE. (NOTE: NOR HAVE WE HAD ANY RESPONSE TO OUR BUENOS AIRES 0861.) AMB HILL NOTED THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO CONSIDER OTHER MAYORS FROM THE US TO INSURE THAT WE HAVE SOME REPRESENTATION AT THIS MEETING. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST WOULD BE THE MAYOR OF MIAMI OR OTHER SPANISH SPEAKING MAYORS PERHAPS FROM TEXAS OR CALIF. EMBRIONI WAS DELIGHTED BY THIS SUGGESTION AND SAID IF ANY OF THESE MAYORS WISH TO ATTEND HE WOULD FORTHWITH ISSUE APPROPRIATE INVITATIONS.

5. AMB HILL WILL CALL AMB VAZQUEZ BEFORE CLOSE OF BUSINESS FEB 27 TO DETERMINE WHAT RESPONSE VAZQUEZ HAS RECEIVED FROM MAYORS ALREADY INVITED.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE CONTACT THE NATIONAL ASSOC OF MAYORS ASAP IN WASHINGTON TO SEE IF THEY HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF THIS MEETING, AND WHAT ACTION IF ANY THEY HAVE TAKEN TO DATE. IN VIEW OF PUBLICITY EVENT WILL GENERATE HERE, EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE TO INTEREST THEM IN HAVING SOME REPRESENTATION. THEY MAY ALSO BE ABLE TO SUGGEST AN APPROPRIATE SPANISH SPEAKING MAYOR TO ATTEND CONFERENCE. YOU SHOULD ADVISE ASSOC THAT MAYORS ARE EXPECTED TO PAY TRANSPORTATION AND LODGING (AT SHERATON HOTEL). THEIR EXPENSES WHILE IN ARGENTINA WILL BE FUNDED BY THE CITY OF BUENOS AIRES, INCLUDING FOLLOW-UP TRIP TO INTERIOR AS MENTIONED. WITH REGARD TO SECURITY QUESTION, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT POTENTIAL ATTENDEES SHOULD BE ADVISED THAT WHILE SECURITY SITUATION IS A PROBLEM THERE HAS NOT BEEN AN INCIDENT INVOLVING SHORT-TIMER VISITORS. PLEASE CABLE ANY REACTIONS FROM ASSOC OR INFORMATION THEY MAY ALREADY HAVE ABOUT POTENTIAL ATTENDEES ASAP.

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7. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF POLITICAL SITUATION, THERE IS POSSIBILITY MEETING WILL NEVER BE HELD. HOWEVER, SO LONG AS IT IS ON SCHEDULE BELIEVE IT WORTHWHILE TO MAKE EFFORT TO SECURE APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATION.
HILL

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